REMARKS

Figure 1 has been amended. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-5 and 10-14 remain in the application. Reconsideration and reexamination is respectfully requested.

In paper 11, a proposed substitute drawing for figure 1 was disapproved, the examiner stating: ". . . a mere block diagram does not show the feature of invention specified in claims 1-5 and 10-14." Applicant traverses. The examiner has cited no authority for the rejection, and applicant submits that the drawing conforms to 37 CFR 1.83, which states: "However, conventional features disclosed in the description and claims, where their detailed illustration is not essential for a proper understanding of the invention, should be illustrated in the drawing in the form of a graphical symbol or labeled representation (e.g., a labeled rectangular box)." Applicant has conformed to 37 CFR 1.83. In addition, the processor is not an element of method claims 1-5.

In paper 11, the drawings were objected to as not showing "a line" or "lines" of claims 1 and 10. Applicant traverses. See figure 3, elements 300, 308, and 312, and figure 5, elements 500, 502, 504, and 508. In addition, no figures are required for method claims (MPEP 601.01(f)).

In paper 11, claims 1-5 and 10-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent Number 6,518,587 (Rombola). Applicant traverses.

Claim 1 specifies: "determining whether at least one line is present in image data for a particular color channel; and determining whether a calibration gain for a photosensor corresponding to the line is normal."

Rombola teaches two methods for excluding data contributed by an artifact on the calibration target. In one method (column 4, lines 45-54, and claim 1), a defect is assumed if the difference between two scanned pixel values for one pixel exceeds a threshold. In the second method (column 5, lines 1-5), only scanned pixel values falling in the range having the most occurrences in a histogram are used for computing an average pixel value, and other pixel values are excluded from the averaging calculation. Neither method determines whether calibration gains are normal. In Rombola, values that appear to result from defects are excluded from the gain calculations, so that the resulting gains are assumed to be normal.

The examiner cites Rombola, column 4, lines 55-59. The cited text supports applicant's explanation above. That is, Rombola does not determine whether gains are normal, but instead Rombola excludes suspect data from the gain calculations so that gains are then assumed to be normal.

Claim 2 specifies: "determining that a gain associated with a particular photosensor, in a particular line-array of photosensors, in a photosensor assembly, exceeds a predetermined gain threshold, the gain having been calibrated using the calibration target;"

Applicant's remarks in conjunction with claim 1 apply equally to claim 2. Rombola does not determine whether gains exceed a threshold. Rombola determines whether differences between two scanned pixel values exceed a threshold, or whether scanned pixel values fall outside the range of a histogram bar.

The examiner cites Rombola, column 4, lines 48-52. The cited text describes differences between two scanned pixel values, not gains.

Claim 2 also specifies: "determining that an image intensity measurement for each photosensor, physically corresponding to the particular photosensor, in all line-arrays in the photosensor assembly other then the particular line-array of photosensors, does not exceed the predetermined intensity threshold." Rombola does not teach or suggest multiple line-arrays having corresponding photosensors. In Rombola, two segments of a single line array are abutted.

The examiner cites Rombola, column 3, lines 50-54. The cited text is not relevant to multiple line arrays having corresponding photosensors.

Claim 3 specifies: "determining that intensity data, for each photosensor, physically corresponding to the particular photosensor, in all line-arrays in the photosensor assembly other then the particular line-array of photosensors, is not less than the predetermined intensity threshold." Applicant's remarks in conjunction with claim 2 apply equally to claim 3.

The examiner cites Rombola, column 4, lines 48-52. The cited text is not relevant to multiple line arrays having corresponding photosensors.

Claim 4, dependent on claim 3, further specifies: "determining that the defect was present during calibration, by determining that a gain for the particular photosensor,

determined during calibration, exceeds a predetermined gain threshold. Applicant's remarks regarding gains in conjunction with claims 1 and 2 apply equally to claim 4.

The examiner cites Rombola, column 4, lines 45-52. As discussed above, the cited text is not relevant to gains.

Claim 4, dependent on claim 3, further specifies: "determining that the defect was not present during calibration, by determining that a gain for the particular photosensor, determined during calibration, does not exceed a predetermined gain threshold. Rombola expressly teaches a method to identify defects during calibration, not defects that were not present during calibration.

The examiner cites Rombola, column 4, lines 45-52. The cited text describes identification of defects during calibration.

Claim 5, dependent on claim 3, further specifies: "determining that the defect was not present during calibration, by determining that a gain for the particular photosensor, determined during calibration, does not exceed a predetermined gain threshold." Applicants remarks in conjunction with claim 4 apply equally to claim 5.

Claim 10 specifies: "a second line-array of photosensors;". Applicant's remarks regarding multiple line-arrays of photosensors in conjunction with claims 2 and 3 apply equally to claim 10.

The examiner does not provide any citation to Rombola for a second line of photosensors.

Claim 10 further specifies: "the processor determining that a defect exists when lines are present in image data from only one of the first and second line-arrays of photosensors and when calibration gains, associated with photosensors corresponding to the lines, are normal." Applicant's remarks regarding gains in conjunction with claim 1 apply equally to claim 10.

The examiner cites Rombola, lines 55-59, which applicant also discussed above in conjunction with claim 1.

Claim 11 specifies: "a photosensor assembly comprising a plurality of line-arrays of photosensors;" and "a particular photosensor, in a particular line-array of photosensors, in the photosensor assembly, having an associated gain that exceeds a predetermined gain threshold, the gain having been calibrated using the calibration target;". Applicant's

remarks regarding multiple line-arrays of photosensors in conjunction with claims 2 and 3 apply equally to claim 11. Applicant's remarks regarding gains in conjunction with claim 1 apply equally to claim 11.

Claim 12 specifies: "a photosensor assembly comprising a plurality of line-arrays of photosensors;" and "a particular photosensor, in a particular line-array of photosensors, in a photosensor assembly, having an associated image intensity measurement that is less than a predetermined intensity threshold;". Applicant's remarks regarding multiple line-arrays of photosensors in conjunction with claims 2 and 3 apply equally to claim 11. In addition, Rombola compares differences between two image values to a threshold, not a single image intensity measurement to a threshold.

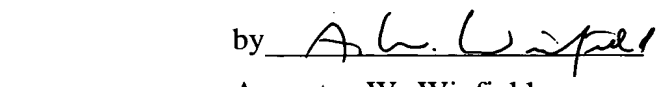
The examiner cites Rombola, column 4, lines 45-54. The cited lines expressly discuss comparing the difference between two values to a threshold.

Claim 13, dependent on claim 12, further specifies: "the processor determining that the defect was present during calibration, by determining that a gain associated with the particular photosensor, determined during calibration, exceeds a predetermined gain threshold. Applicant's remarks regarding gains in conjunction with claim 1 apply equally to claim 13.

Claim 14, dependent on claim 12, further specifies: "the processor determining that the defect was not present during calibration, by determining that a gain associated with the particular photosensor, determined during calibration, does not exceed a predetermined gain threshold." Applicant's remarks regarding defects not present during calibration in conjunction with claim 4 apply equally to claim 14. Applicant's remarks regarding gains in conjunction with claim 1 apply equally to claim 14.

Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested. This application is considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

by 

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Amendments to the drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to figure 1. This sheet replaces the original sheet including figure 1.

Attachment: Replacement sheet
Annotated sheet showing changes

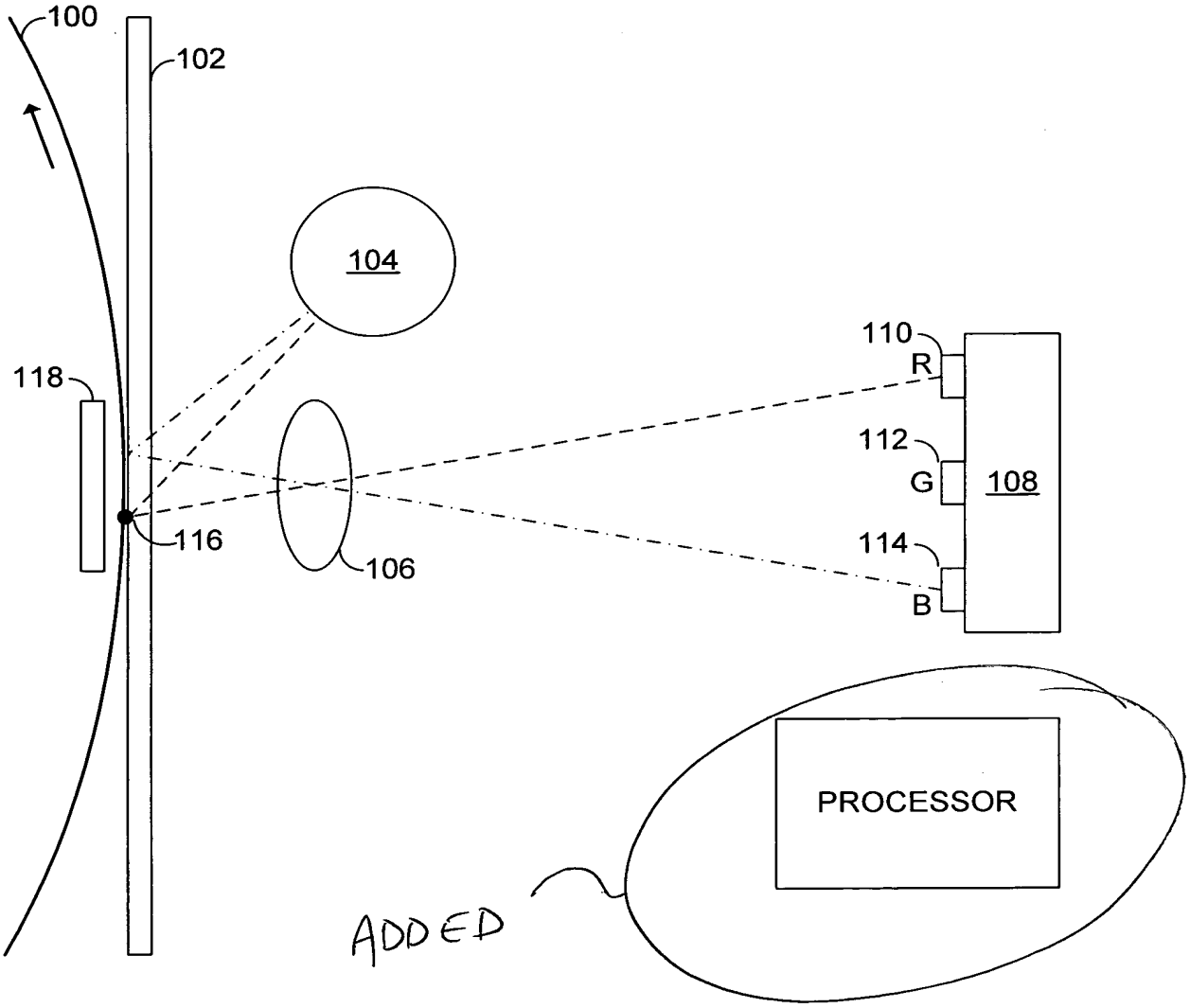

FIG. 1